

with netting. It might be appropriate to add here that over 90 eggs were laid on all the surfaces except the willow and the eggs took 11 days to hatch at indoor temperature. An uneventful round of the traps took place at 3 a.m. and at 4 a.m. after the others had departed, I decided to empty the traps of the large numbers of insects and so enable them to find adequate cover before the arrival of dawn. It was on this round that I took a second *anachoreta*, a male in fine condition.

The following night in the company of Messrs. R. G. Chatelain and C. Hart, two more males were seen both appearing after 12.30.

As a detailed account of additional records will shortly appear in a Supplement to the *Butterflies and Moths of Kent*, it is perhaps sufficient here to note that between the 14th and 26th August, further specimens were seen by Messrs. R. Fairclough, C. Hart, T. Harman, A. Jenkins, J. Platts and G. Senior, bringing the total up to 18 males and 3 females.

The occurrence therefore of 21 specimens seems to indicate the presence of a breeding colony in the Dungeness area, whether or not it is of recent origin is anybody's guess. It is possible that a species with the habit of flying late could remain undetected in an area frequently visited by lepidopterists, but what is perhaps more puzzling is the complete lack of records of first brood individuals which should occur between late April and mid June.

References

- Chalmers-Hunt, J. M., 1962-1968. *The Butterflies and Moths of Kent*, 2: 37-39, 356.
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SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE HABITS OF THE LARVAE OF THE BROWN-TAIL (*EUPROCTIS CHRYSORRHOEA* L.) IN THE EASTBOURNE DISTRICT. — The Brown-tail is a common insect in this area, the usual foodplant being blackthorn upon which the larvae spin their conspicuous webs. During the course of the last several years, observations on this species show that the larvae also occur here on hawthorn, willow and *Cotoneaster*. The latter foodplant is unusual in that it is very local in its native form, occurring along the cliffs at Eastbourne and is the species *Cotoneaster horizontalis*. Observations on the larvae in the spring showed that they were far more advanced on this than the colonies upon blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), and this may possibly be accounted for by the fact that the latter foodplant loses its leaves totally and the overwintering larvae must wait for the buds to break before they can start feeding, whereas the former foodplant being a semi-evergreen provides the larvae with immediate food. — M. HADLEY, 7 Beverington Close, Eastbourne, Sussex BN21 2SB.